

Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5431

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UNCLAS SEOUL 5392

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, KS

SUBJ: INVESTIGATION OF PARK ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT

REF: SEOUL 5390

1. IN LATE NIGHT PRESS BRIEFING AUG 17, CHIEF INVESTIGATION PROSECUTOR, KIM IL DOO, ANNOUNCED THAT NORTH KOREA'S KIM IL-SUNG HAD ORDERED PARK ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT. HE FURTHER DISCLOSED THAT INFORMATION HAD COME FROM MUN SE KWANG'S CONFESSION.

2. IN DETAILED RECOUNTING OF PLOT, PROSECUTOR KIM CLAIMS KIM IL-SUNG GAVE ORIGINAL ASSASSINATION ORDER IN NORTH'S COASTAL CITY OF HAMHUNG TO AGENT WHO RELAYED ORDER IN TURN TO CHOSEN SOREN, PRO-NORTH KOREAN ORGANIZATION OF KOREAN RESIDENTS IN JAPAN. PLANNING AND PREPARATIONS WERE CONTROLLED BY THIS AGENT (DESCRIBED AS SLIM AND BALDING) AND KIM HO-RYONG, POLITICAL SECTION CHIEF OF OSAKA BRANCH OF CHOSEN SOREN.

3. MUN ALLEGEDLY CONFESSED THAT THESE TWO COMMUNISTS CONVERTED HIM POLITICALLY AROUND SEPT OF 1972 BUT ASSASSINATION MISSION WAS NOT PROPOSED UNTIL NOV. 1973.
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ONE AGENT ALSO GAVE MUN 5,000 YEN FOR PURCHASE OF PISTOL
IN HONG KONG'S BLACK MARKET IN NOV.

4. PROSECUTOR KIM DISCLOSED USE OF CHOSEN SOREN
OPERATED TRADING SHIP, MANKYONGBONG-BO, WHICH THE UNIDENTI-
FIED "FORTYISH" NORTH KOREAN AGENT USED IN HIS TRAVELS
BETWEEN HAMHUNG AND OSAKA, FACILITATING CONTACTS WITH
BOTH KIM HO-RYONG AND MUN.

5. PROSECUTOR ALSO RECOUNTED MUN'S TRIP TO HONG KONG
WITH MRS. YOKIO (MIKIKO) YOSHII BUT FAILURE TO BUY
WEAPON THERE POSTPONED ORIGINAL ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT
SCHEDULED FROM SAMIL DAY (MARCH 1) TO AUG 15. MUN
RECEIVED 800,000 YEN FOR OPERATION. MUN ALSO CONFESSED
THAT YUKIO YOSHII AS WELL AS WIFE WAS KNOWINGLY
INVOLVED IN PLOT. PROSECUTOR KIM NOTED THAT THUS FAR
NO DOMESTIC ACCOMPLICE IN PLOT HAS BEEN UNCOVERED.
HABIB

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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